

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) A Committee has been set up to examine the TRAI Recommendations on "Allocation and pricing of spectrum for 3G and broadband wireless access services", taking into account various related factors.

Directions for Mobile Companies

†1663. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued directions to the companies providing mobile services throughout the country that no mobile connection should be provided without verification;

(b) if so, whether the companies have complied with these directions; and

(c) if not, the action being taken by Government for non-compliance of this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) As per conditions of the License Agreement, the mobile operators are required to ensure adequate verification of each and every customer before enrolling him as a subscriber. Instructions have also been issued from time to time to ensure 100% verification of subscribers.

(b) Some instances came to the notice of Department of Telecommunications that certain operators are not complying with the above license condition fully in some service areas. A special drive was conducted, in the month of April 2006, in the cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Chennai and Haryana Telecom Circle service areas to ascertain the status of subscriber verification through sample checks.

(c) Based on the observations of the special drive, the concerned service providers have been directed to discontinue all such connections that were provided without proper verification. Instructions have been issued to all

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

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mobile service providers on 22nd November, 2006 for re-verification of existing subscribers by 31st March, 2007.

Leakage of ADC Revenues from ILD calls

1664. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the leakage of ADC revenues for ILD calls is still continuing;
- (b) if so, whether Government would explain what foolproof methods have been put into place to ensure that this doesn't repeat;
- (c) whether some private companies and their managers role are being investigated by the CBI, however there has been no mention about the roles of the regulator or with relevant officials of DoT in this scam; and
- (d) what action Government have taken in this regard or intend to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) A new framework of Access Deficit Charge (ADC) has been prescribed with effect from 01-03-2006 as per Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Regulation viz. "The Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (Sixth Amendment) Regulation (1 of 2006)". One of the reasons for prescribing this framework of ADC is to avoid any grey market.

(c) Economic Offences Wing of CBI Chennai has registered a case against M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd. (RIL) for causing loss of ADC due to manipulation of Calling Line Identity in 2004.

(d) Government after following the due process as per provisions of the license agreements levied a penalty of Rs. 50 crores each against the Unified Access Service Licences of Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata of M/s RIL. M/s RIL appealed in the Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT), however, the appeal was dismissed. M/s RIL paid the penalty of Rs. 150 crores in March, 2005. M/s RIL further filed a Civil Appeal in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India against the judgement of the TDSAT and the matter is subjudice.